

Message Text

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FOR: IOR,IOP, INA

E.O. 11652:N/A

SUBJECT: NASC: NON-ALIGNED NEWS POOL

REF: COLOMBO 3177-C (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING ARE: THE SECTION OF POLITICAL
DECLARATION ON PRESS AGENCIES' POOL ADOPTED BY FIFTH NON-ALIGNED
SUMMIT CONFERENCE AND SUMMIT POLITICAL
RESOLUTION 16 ON THE PRESS AGENCIES' POOL.

2. POLITICAL DECLARATION QUOTE: XXI PRESS AGENCIES POOL.

(160) A NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER IN THE FIELDS OF INFORMATION
AND MASS COMMUNICATIONS IS AS VITAL AS A NEW INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC ORDER.

(161) NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES NOTED WITH CONCERN THE VAST AND
EVER GROWING GAP BETWEEN COMMUNICATION CAPACITIES IN NON-ALIGNED
COUNTRIES AND IN THE ADVANCED COUNTRIES WHICH IS A LEGACY OF
THEIR COLONIALPAST. THIS HAS CREATED A SITUATION OF DEPENDENCE
AND DOMINATION IN WHICH
THE MAJORITY OF COUNTRIES ARE REDUCED TO BEING PASSIVE
RECIPIENTS OF BIASED, INADEQUATE AND DISTORTED INFORMATION. THE
FULLER IDENTIFICATION AND AFFIRMATION OF THEIR NATIONAL AND
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CULTURAL IDENTITY THUS REQUIRED THEM TO RECTIFY THIS SERIOUS

IMBALANCE AND TO TAKE URGENT STEPS TO PROVIDE GREATER MOMENTUM
IN THIS NEW AREA OF MUTUAL CO-OPERATION.

(162) THE EMANCIPATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL INFORMATION
MEDIA IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE OVER-ALL STRUGGLE FOR POLITICAL,
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INDEPENDENCE FOR A LARGE MAJORITY OF THE
PEOPLES OF THE WORLD WHO SHOULD NOT BE DENIED THE RIGHT TO INFORM
AND TO BE INFORMED OBJECTIVELY AND CORRECTLY. SELF-RELIANCE IN
SOURCES OF INFORMATION IS AN IMPORTANT AS TECHNOLOGICAL SELF-
RELIANCE SINCE DEPENDENCE IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATION IN TURN
RETARDS THE VERY ACHIEVEMENT OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC GROWTH.

(163) NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES MUST ACHIEVE THESE OBJECTIVES THROUGH
THEIR OWN EFFORTS AS WELL AS BY MORE ACTIVE CO-OPERATION ON A
BILATERAL, REGIONAL AS WELL AS INTER-REGIONAL BASIS AND BY CO-
ORDINATING THEIR ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTER-
NATIONAL FORUMS. IT IS PARTICULARLY NECESSARY FOR NON-ALIGNED
COUNTRIES TO STRENGTHEN THEIR EXISTING INFRA-STRUCTURE AND TO
TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL BREAK-
THROUGH ALREADY MADE IN THIS FIELD. THIS WOULD FACILITATE MORE
COMPLETE DISSEMINATION OF OBJECTIVE INFORMATION AMONGST THEIR
OWN PUBLIC AS WELL AS THE WORLD AT LARGE ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS
IN NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES IN THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND
OTHER FIELDS AND THEIR GROWING ROLE IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

(164) THE CONFERENCE WELCOMED THE DECLARATION ADOPTED AND THE
IMPORTANT DECISIONS TAKEN IN THIS FIELD AT THE CONFERENCE HELD IN
NEW DELHI FROM 8-13 JULY 1976 AT THE HIGH POLITICAL LEVEL OF
MINISTERS OF INFORMATION OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AND URGED THEIR
EARLIEST POSSIBLE IMPLEMENTATION. END QUOTE.

3. RESOLUTION 16, QUOTE: PRESS AGENCIES POOL.

THE FIFTH CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT OF
NON -ALIGNED COUNTRIES,

RECALLING THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE ACTION PROGRAMME FOR
ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION ADOPTED BY THE FOURTH CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF
STATE OR GOVERNMENT OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AT ALGIERS IN
SEPTEMBER , 1973,

TAKING NOTE OF RESOLUTION VI OF THE CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN
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MINISTERS OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES IN LIMA IN 1975 IN WHICH THE
RESULTS ACHIEVED IN PROMOTING CO-OPERATION AMONG NON-ALIGNED
COUNTRIES IN THE FIELD OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS INCLUDING COMMENCE-
MENT OF A POOL OF NEWS AGENCIES OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES STARTING
OPERATION IN JANUARY 1975 WERE NOTED WITH SATISFACTION, AND TUNISIA
WAS APPOINTED AS CO-ORDINATING COUNTRY IN THIS AREA TO FURTHER
STIMULATE THE ENCOURAGING RESULTS ALREADY OBTAINED,

RECALLING WITH APPRECIATION THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE WAYS TO DEVELOP INFORMATION
BETWEEN NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES HELD IN TUNIS IN MARCH 1976.

NOTING WITH APPRECIATION THE IMPORTANT DECISIONS TAKEN
AT THE MEETING OF THE INFORMATION MINISTERS OF THE NON-ALIGNED
COUNTRIES HELD AT NEW DELHI FROM 8-13 JULY 1976 WHICH CONSTITUTE
A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD IN CO-OPERATION AMONG NON-
ALIGNED COUNTRIES IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATION AND MASS MEDIA,

STRONGLY CONVINCED OF THE NEED TO SET UP A CO-ORDINATION
COUNCIL OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AT GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL FOR
DEVISING MEASURES FOR CO-OPERATION AND CO-ORDINATION IN THIS AREA,

AFFIRMING THE DETERMINATION OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES
TO INTENSIFY MUTUAL CO-OPERATION IN THIS FIELD,

(1) WELCOMES AND ENDORSES THE DECLARATION AND THE DECISIONS
OF THE NEW DELHI MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES
AS AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARDS FURTHER CO-OPERATION AMONG NON-
ALIGNED COUNTRIES IN ESTABLISHING A BALANCED AND EQUITABLE
DISTRIBUTION OF NEWS AND INFORMATION TO THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD,

(2) APPROVES THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PRESS AGENCIES POOL OF
THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AND THE FORMATION OF ITS ---
(UNSPECIFIED NUMBER)--- MEMBER CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE AS DECIDED.
THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE MAY CO-OPT FURTHER MEMBERS
TO INCREASE ITS EFFECTIVENESS AS CONSIDERED NECESSARY,

(3) ADOPTS THE ACTION PLAN FOR CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF
INFORMATION AND MASS MEDIA AS CONTAINED IN THE RESOLUTION IN
DOCUMENT A/12 ADOPTED BY THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF NON-ALIGNED
COUNTRIES AT NEW DELHI AFTER HAVING REVIEWED THE RECOMMENDATIONS
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OF THE TUNIS SYMPOSIUM,

(4) ENDORSES THE SETTING UP OF A CO-ORDINATION COUNCIL COMPOSED
OF REPRESENTATIVES AT GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL TO REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECISIONS TAKEN SO FAR IN THE FIELD OF NEWS DISSEMINATION
AND TO TAKE DECISIONS REGARDING THE CONVENING OF FURTHER MEETINGS
AND CONSULTATIONS AT POLITICAL, OFFICIAL AND EXPERT LEVELS FOR
PROMOTING CO-OPERATION IN DIFFERENT FIELDS OF INFORMATION AND
MASS MEDIA,

(5) DECIDES THAT THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL CO-ORDINATION COUNCIL
WOULD BE A 15-MEMBER BODY ON THE BASIS OF GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION,
CONTINUITY AND ROTATION AND WOULD BE COMPOSED OF THE
FOLLOWING MEMBERS FOR ITS FIRST TERM OF THREE YEARS UNTIL THE
NEXT SUMMIT CONFERENCE. THE MEETINGS OF THE CO-ORDINATION

COUNCIL SHOULD BE OPEN TO ANY OTHER NON-ALIGNED COUNTRY WISHING TO ATTEND,

(6) ENDORSES THE SETTING UP OF A 12-MEMBER COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS WHICH WILL HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING IN BAGHDAD FOR CONSIDERATION OF CABLE TARRIFFS AND IMPROVEMENT OF MUTUAL COMMUNICATION FACILITIES WITH THE TERMS OF REFERENCE AS CONTAINED IN DOCUMENT A/S OF THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES HELD AT NEW DELHI.

(7) URGES THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOREGOING DECISIONS. END QUOTE.

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